

# I M A G E S



## South Carolina State Museum

Volume II Number 1

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Copy 3



2

A Glypto.....What?!

1

A Tour of Two Galleries

1

Knights in South Carolina?

2

Museum Wish List

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STATE DOCUMENTS



# Preview of Coming Attractions--The Galleries

Let's continue our imaginary visit to the future State Museum. After touring three floors of exhibits on natural history, science and technology, and cultural history, you still have not exhausted all there is to see. Two ample galleries designed for changing exhibitions wait to reveal their delights. Each time you return to the museum, you are likely to discover that they have something different to offer.

The Art Gallery--the larger of the two--lies on the museum's first floor. In the gallery you find a relaxed yet dignified ambience ideal for the enjoyment of art. Frequent visits will show you how flexible the space really is. Dozens of sturdy yet movable wall partitions allow the staff to tailor the 7,280-square-foot space to each exhibit. One time you may find the gallery arranged open fashion to accommodate a major exhibition; the next time you may find it divided into six intimate spaces for smaller shows.

Since this is the State Museum, most of the exhibits feature South Carolina art or point out connections between the art of the state and regional, national, or even international themes. Since our museum is

interdisciplinary, some of the exhibits relate the arts to historical and scientific subjects.

In one portion of the gallery, you see changing exhibitions of South Carolina art, drawn not only from the museum's own holdings but also from the collections of other museums and private individuals. These exhibits will give you a vivid impression of the range of work, in both academic and folk styles, that our state has produced or inspired over the last three centuries.

You also see contemporary art. The museum features the South Carolina State Art Collection, which the South Carolina Arts Commission has been assembling since 1967. You also see exhibits by statewide associations such as the Guild of South Carolina Artists and the South Carolina Watercolor Society. These exhibits keep you up to date with what is happening in art state-wide.

Many of the shows are organized thematically. "The Sport Horse in South Carolina" presents art and artifacts of equine sport and introduces you to the genteel horse culture so prominent in many areas of the state. "The 1939 World's Fair" gives you a 50th anniversary

look at the art from South Carolina that was shown in the national exhibition "American Art Today" on that auspicious occasion. "South Carolinians at the Art Students League" features the work of artists who have been members of that prestigious New York institution, and the "Southern Portrait Tradition" explores the role that portraiture has played in Southern culture.

If the gallery on the first floor spotlights art, the changing gallery on the fourth, only slightly smaller, presents exhibits more historical in nature. Most are thematic. Some feature decorative arts such as textiles, pottery, silver, and furniture. Others present historical concepts,

such as the changing role of women in the state, African-American traditions, and the sporting life in South Carolina. You also occasionally find an exhibit dealing with science and natural history.

A kaleidoscope of images: that's what you find in the changing exhibition galleries. Exciting new shows open every few months, drawing you back to the museum again and again.

We hope you have enjoyed your preview tour. In future issues we will give you a closer look at how we're developing those exhibits that you will see on opening day.

-by Overton G. Ganong

## "Suits of Armor"

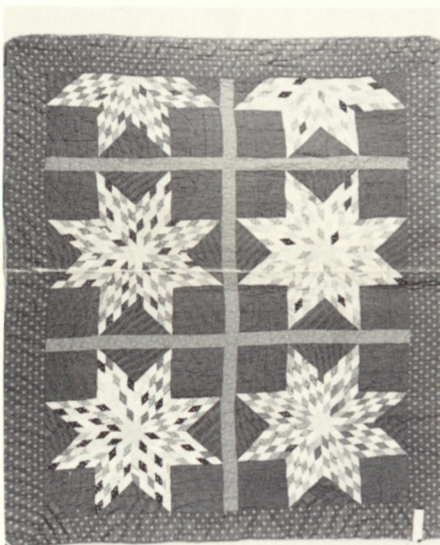
"What is a suit of English armor doing in the South Carolina State Museum?" That question might be asked frequently when visitors to the museum view the exhibit on the founding of Carolina and find prominently displayed a suit of English pikeman's armor. No, it is not there because the curator happens to like armor, but because the early records of the colony indicate that the Proprietors sent 12 "suits of armor" with the original settlers.

Early records of the armed forces that defended the colony are scarce, but enough material exists to determine that some of the early troops did wear English armor. Because the pikeman's armor was the latest style in England and still readily available, it is fairly certain that this is what was worn by the early colonists and what is referred to in the list of supplies as 12 "suits of armor." Most experts suggest, however, that the troops that had armor did not wear the complete set, but only the breast and back plates and the morion or helmet. The tassets, which were metal splints used to protect the lower trunk and thighs, were probably not worn by this time.

Originally plate armor was used to protect troops from injury by arrows from long bows. However, by 1650 the use of armor was disappearing because the development of firearms provided weapons that could easily penetrate a suit of armor. However, in the American colonies, the Indians did not have firearms and armor provided protection against the arrows. Because the Proprietors were notorious for providing only the barest necessities for the colonists, it is likely that they sent with the supplies some outdated sets of armor for use by the colonial troops.

The suit of armor recently acquired for the collection is a set that contains a mark indicating that at one time it was in the collection of the Tower of London. This set of pikeman's armor dates from about 1650. Unfortunately, it is highly unlikely that any of the armor used in South Carolina is still in existence, so we have done the next best thing and located a set that is typical of the type that was worn in colonial South Carolina.

-by Rodger Stroup



This quilt is representative of a sizeable collection of textiles which will be featured as one of the changing exhibits in the fourth floor gallery.



The Carolina Cup logo medallion, created by Camden horseman-sculptor Carroll K. Bassett, will be highlighted in an exhibit in the museum's art gallery titled "The Sport Horse in South Carolina."



"Saturday Night" by South Carolina artist James F. Cooper was part of a national exhibit on display at the 1939 World's Fair.



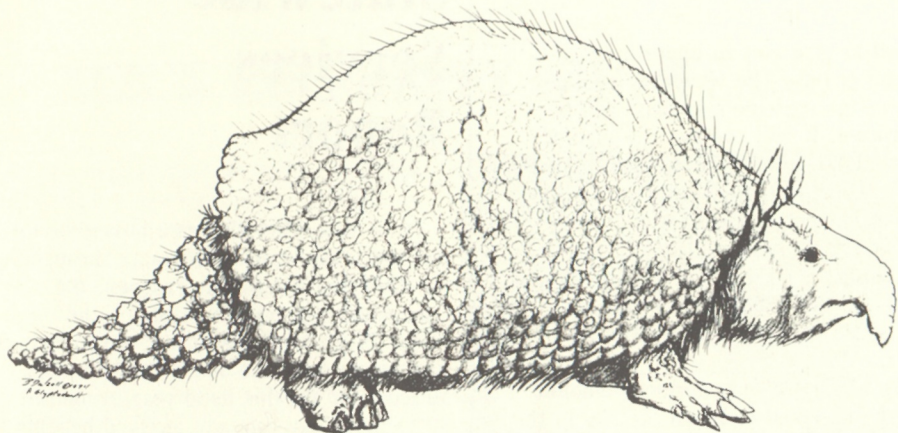
South Carolina militia officer in armor, 1670 (researched by Fitzhugh McMaster).



Suits of armor like this one were typical of the type worn in colonial South Carolina.



# What's a Glyptodont?



Drawing of a *Glyptotherium arizonae*.

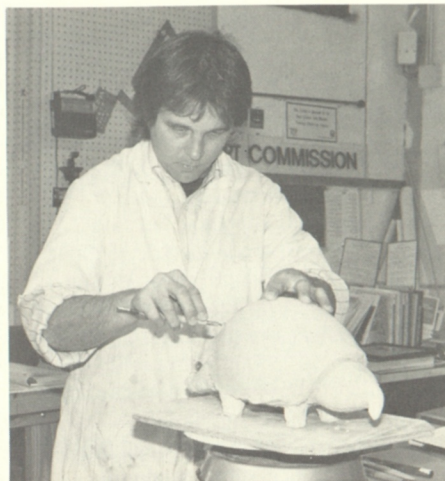
Although no dinosaur remains have been found in South Carolina, other animals just as remarkable roamed our state during the Pliocene and Pleistocene eras. One of these creatures was the glyptodont and a model of this large turtlelike mammal will be featured in the State Museum's Hall of Natural History.

James Brown, State Museum exhibits specialist, is in the process of building a small version of this animal which will be used as a model in building the lifesize glyptodont. This 16-inch model will enable Brown to work out the glyptodont's size, shape and features before the actual 8-foot version is built. The miniature glyptodont

is constructed of dense styrofoam covered with a layer of oil-based modeling clay which can be molded to form its thin, horny scales, stump-like feet and heavy tail. Though awesome in appearance, glyptodonts were harmless vegetarians with simple grinding teeth. They were restricted to warm, moist areas with lush vegetation and actual remnants of glyptodonts' shells have been found along South Carolina's Edisto Beach.

The glyptodont will be a featured exhibit in the museum's fossil area along with full-scale versions of a mastodon and a giant beaver.

You might wonder why an animal with



James Brown sculpts a glyptodont model.

no more notoriety than the glyptodont was selected for display. Daniel Smith, the State Museum's assistant curator of natural history, has the answer. "We wanted to add a few more pieces to our fossil hall to make it more exciting and felt like museum visitors would find this unique creature that once lived in our state quite interesting."

And after viewing the model, I'm sure that you will.

-by Caroline H. Miley

## The Collecting Continues to Complete Museum Exhibits

Renovation work is progressing rapidly at the old mill site on the Columbia Canal. The architects and staff are hard at work finalizing plans for exhibit halls and galleries. The Friends of the State Museum have launched their latest fund-raising drive. And amidst all these developments, the collecting still continues.

Although thousands of outstanding artifacts have already been donated to the State Museum, there are still areas where special items are needed. The curators of our four discipline areas were asked to put together a "wish list" of objects still needed to complete certain exhibits. If you have or know the whereabouts of any of the following items, the curators would be pleased to talk with you about them.

### CULTURAL HISTORY

Dr. Rodger Stroup, Curator

- Mill Village Life in the Early Twentieth Century- any information or photographs concerning the community life of mill workers or descriptions of mill village homes.
- Country Store-Circa 1920- any items typically found in country stores of this time period.
- One-room Schoolhouse-Circa 1910 any school supplies, furniture or equipment dating around the turn of the century.
- Indian Material- any items crafted by South Carolina's early Indian population.
- Slave Cabin- any slave-made artifacts, quilts or furniture made prior to 1865.

### ART

Lise Swensson, Curator

The State Museum's art gallery will be different from any other art museum in the state because we are specifically collecting art by South Carolina artists or art of South Carolina scenes. Two areas that are of special interest are:

- Works by deceased South Carolina artists.
- Equine paraphernalia (ex. polo mallets, jockey's silks, etc.) - for an exhibit on South Carolina and the horse.

### NATURAL HISTORY

Michael Ray, Curator

The natural history floor will have an exhibit hall featuring seven different South Carolina habitats with many animals representing these various environments. Rather than destroying our ecology by ac-

tively collecting animals from nature, we depend on individuals to contact us about accidental road kills or other available collections of wildlife. Many birds are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and only by an authorized Federal permit can the State Museum or individuals salvage, transport, mount, possess or display these birds. If you have any collections of natural history material such as fossils, insects or other salvaged wildlife, please get in touch with us.

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ronald Shelton, Curator

The following are specific items that are needed to complete exhibits featuring transportation, agriculture, manufacturing and technological advances:

- Shipbuilder's adze, 19th century
- Cooper's adze, 19th century
- Early 19th century felling axe
- Models of early 19th century watercraft
- Small railroad tools and accessories, circa 1850 or 1920's (ex. baggage claims, locomotive lights, etc.)
- Automobile tires and tools, circa 1900
- Early 20th century bicycle
- Telegraph set
- Mule harness and tack
- Windmill
- Buggy Whip
- Horse tack for buggy
- Shrimp net (portion used on a commercial boat)

Join with us in making the South Carolina State Museum even more exciting by helping us locate and acquire these much needed objects for our collections. For more information, contact one of the curators at (803) 758-8197 or write P. O. Box 11296, Columbia, S.C. 29211.

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**IMAGES**, the newsletter of the South Carolina State Museum, is published three times yearly, in the winter, spring and fall. Now in the planning stages, the State Museum will be a general museum of South Carolina's history, natural history, science and technology and art.

Winter 1986 Volume II Number 1

## On The Cover

Renovation work continues on the South Carolina State Museum building. (For story, see page 1.)



Thoughts of some of the items still needed to complete exhibits.



# From Mill To Museum--The Renovation Continues

The transformation of the old Mount Vernon Mill into the new South Carolina State Museum is well underway. The huge structure is no longer an empty cavernous space--throughout the building saws are humming, hammers are pounding and things are starting to take shape. Architects' drawings and plans, for years merely pencil marks on paper, are becoming walls, auditoriums and exhibit halls.

The renovation work is progressing from the fourth floor down to the first. The three wells on the history, science and natural history floors where the Hunley submarine, Clemson airplane and giant white shark will hang, have all been cut and the five-inch thick heart pine subflooring that had to be cut away has been salvaged. Several of the pine columns have been removed to create more space for exhibits and the ceilings have been reinforced with steel beams. The stud walls are up on several floors awaiting sheet rock and the fire walls are all block-

ed in. Down on the first floor in the lobby area, a hole has been cut for the stairs that will lead up to the second floor multi-purpose room and auditorium.

For a while, the art gallery had been converted into a large storage area for duct work, fans and supplies, but now that the installation of the electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling systems is complete, renovation work has resumed in the gallery. An energy building that will house the heating and air conditioning units is currently under construction at the rear of the building.

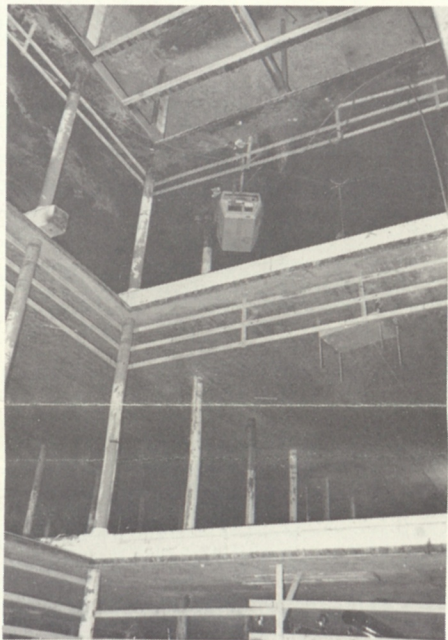
The excavation work for the building's striking new entrance spline is almost finished and soon the airy glass and steel structure will start to rise from the ground.

Meanwhile, another group of builders continue their work to convert a former warehouse structure behind the mill into the museum's exhibit workshop. When this area is completed, an open house is

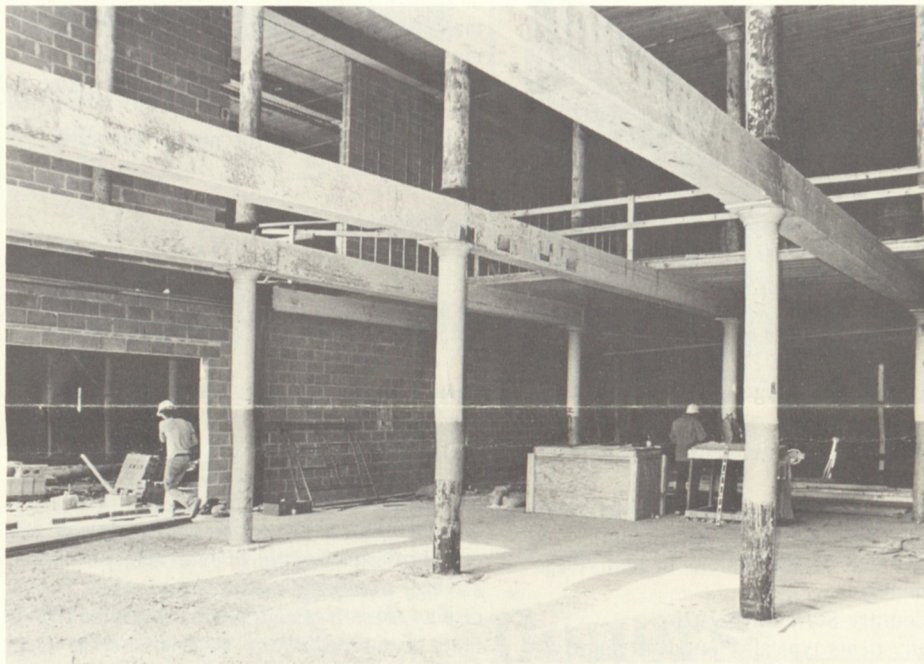
planned to give you an opportunity to tour the facility. The workshop is where many of the museum's exhibits will be constructed. It will contain a skylighted design studio, a large storage and assembly area, a well-appointed woodworking shop (with machinery and tools donated by Sears, Roebuck and Company), a spray-paint booth, a silkscreen work area and dark room, an audio-visual workroom, and a space for the cleaning of large artifacts.

As you can see, an enormous amount of work has taken place on the site in the past eleven months. By this time next year, the museum staff will have moved their offices in to the renovated mill and will be busy installing exhibits for the grand opening in 1988. This is an exciting time for everyone involved with the State Museum project and we will continue to keep you informed on the renovation process in future editions of *Images*.

-by Caroline H. Miley



A view of the openings cut for fire stairs.



The museum lobby area starts to take shape.

## STATE MUSEUM RECEIVES THE HISTORIC FITZ TELESCOPE

It's official! Erskine College has donated the historic Fitz telescope to the State Museum.

Built in 1849 by famed artisan Henry Fitz of New York, it is one of the oldest known remaining American-made telescopes. Robert Ariail of Columbia, who spent 13 years restoring the telescope, said that at the time of its construction it was one of the three largest refractor telescopes in the United States.

It has an objective lens 5.6 inches in diameter and a tube constructed largely of brass, is very ornate and contains a weight-driven motor which automatically tracks celestial objects.

When the State Museum opens to the public in 1988, the Fitz telescope will be mounted in a re-creation of the observatory dome at Erskine as the centerpiece of an exhibit on space science.



Ronald Shelton signs the agreement form donating the Fitz telescope to the museum as Erskine President Dr. William Bruce Ezell, Jr. looks on.

## Statewide Services Report

Fiscal year 1984-85 was a busy year for the Statewide Services Program. Through the Traveling Exhibitions Program, the Consultancy program, workshops and visits, 39 of South Carolina's 46 counties were affected by the South Carolina State Museum. So far this fiscal year, 6 months, 30 counties have already received benefits.

The Traveling Exhibitions Program continues to be the most widely used service. Last year 59 different exhibitors booked traveling exhibitions a total of 180 times. This statistic is up 35% over the previous year. Eight new exhibits were added to the program and three were retired; presently 35 shows are available for booking. A new brochure was designed and printed to reflect this. As of this writing, 43 exhibitors in 24 South Carolina counties have shown South Carolina State Museum exhibits.

The Consultancy Program facet of statewide services was made available to 14 organizations in 10 counties by way of on-site visits last year. Numerous other individuals and museums received help by way of printed materials and technical leaflets. Seven organizations in 5 counties have used this service in the first six months of this fiscal year.

The State Museum continues to offer assistance through workshops co-sponsored with the South Carolina Federation of Museums. Four workshops were held last year--"Accommodations Tax: How to Reap the Benefits," "Exhibits on a Shoestring--The Saga Continues," "Utilization of Outdoor Space," and "Marketing Strategies." A total of 131 individuals benefited from these professional development opportunities all over the state. In September, Bill Tramosch, Director of Education at Colonial Williamsburg, spoke on "Interpretation" to a group of approximately 70 people. Fifty people attended a symposium called "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Museums . . . But Were Afraid to Ask" in October bringing the total number of workshop participants up to 120 for FY86 thus far.

The Statewide Services goals for FY85-86 are basically the same. Every attempt will be made to have some sort of contact with every county in the state. New traveling exhibits are in the works and a workshop series is already being planned. Anyone with suggestions for touring exhibitions or workshop topics is urged to contact Beverly Littlejohn, Coordinator for Statewide Services.



TRAVELING EXHIBITS PROGRAM



# Announcements

## SCN'S CELEBRITY SHOWCASE

South Carolina National Bank's "Celebrity Showcase" provided South Carolinians with a chance to see a series of top-quality sporting events during 1985 while, at the same, benefitting the State Museum.

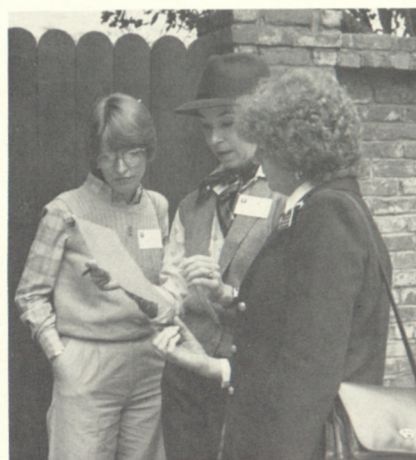
A tennis exhibition featuring Jimmy Connors versus Kevin Curren and Andrea Temesvari versus Lisa Bonder in Greenville during late July netted over \$14,500 for the museum.

And an NBA pre-season game featuring the Denver Nuggets and Philadelphia 76ers in October at Columbia's Carolina Coliseum drew a crowd of more than 11,500.

The final event of the series will take place on April 16, 1986 at the Gaillard Municipal Auditorium in Charleston when SCN presents Hal Holbrook in "Mark Twain Tonight." This performance has become a popular, classic attraction and one of the longest running shows in theatre history. Holbrook adds to his Twain material every year, editing and changing it to fit the times. For additional information on this performance, you can contact the State Museum or South Carolina National Bank.



Hal Holbrook in "Mark Twain Tonight."



State Museum staff members, Margaret Anne Lane (right) and Michelle Baker (left) and Friends executive director Jenny Sloan study the agenda for the Aiken Caravan.



Robert E. Alexander, Chancellor of USC-Aiken, spoke to Caravan participants who were given a private tour of USC's Etherredge Center.

## MUSEUM NEWS



Dr. Theresa Singleton

**Dr. Theresa Singleton**, the State Museum's assistant curator of cultural history for the past three years, has resigned her position to take a job with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. She began her new job as project coordinator for the Afro-American Index Project in December 1985. Her duties include artifactual and documentary research in museum collections, writing research reports and authoring publications. Theresa received her B.A. degree in anthropology and sociology from Trinity College in Washington, D.C. and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in anthropology from the University of Florida. Good luck, Theresa, we will miss you.

**Caroline Miley**, the museum's public information director, and her husband Harry are the proud parents of a baby girl. Born on December 10, 1985, Caroline Prentiss Miley weighed 6 lbs., 7 ozs. Congratulations!

**Max Heller**, the museum's trustee from the Fourth District, has been appointed as chairman-elect for 1986 of the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

**Hyman Rubin**, one of the museum's at-large trustees, has been reappointed by Governor Riley for a four-year term.

## STUDY ON PLANTATION LIFE PUBLISHED

Dr. Theresa Singleton, former assistant curator of cultural history at the State Museum, has recently edited a study titled, *The Archaeology of Slavery and Plantation Life*. This volume, in the *Studies in Historical Archaeology* series, is a convenient anthology and evaluation of

archaeological research on slavery and plantation life as practiced in the American South and throughout the Caribbean area. Published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, it defines plantation society, examines analytical techniques and proposes method and theory.

## Donors

We would like to recognize the people and institutions who over the last few months have generously donated objects to our collections. Their interest, support, and generosity have measurably assisted us in our efforts to create a State Museum for South Carolina.

Buddy Baker, Columbia  
Mrs. John F. Beckman  
Dottie W. Bratton, Columbia  
Dr. George H. Bunch, Jr., Columbia  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Chapman, Sunset  
Mrs. A.K. Clements Jr., Montgomery, Alabama  
O'Neal Compton, Sumter, given in memory of

Alexander Kell Brunson  
Stephen F. Cook, West Columbia, given in memory of W.M. "Billy" Cook, Jr.  
Roger A. Crabtree, Moncks Corner  
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# Friends

## ANNOUNCING NEW MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT!

Have you received your new museum catalog? If you haven't received a copy of "Museum Impressions," call the Friends' office at 758-8197, or write to us at Box 5358, Columbia, South Carolina 29250 to receive your copy of the catalog. It contains an exciting array of museum related items made just for us. If you are already a Friend's member, you will receive a 10% discount on your total purchase. If you are not a member of the Friends, now is the time to join to take advantage of this brand new benefit. Never before have Friends had such a selection of unique items from which to choose. These catalog items will represent your interest in *your* state museum, and cannot be found anywhere else.

Especially exciting are the gold and sterling pendants and lapel pins. Fashioned after the

museum logo, these jewelry items will add a special touch to your wardrobe and show off your interest in the museum. Other items, such as the shell and rock collection pencils and shark's teeth, are especially for children, to increase their knowledge and interest in the heritage of our state. For mug collectors and coffee drinkers, we have "Let's Be Friends" mugs with the museum logo. Also with the logo are the T-shirts and tote bags. No matter what your age or interests, you'll enjoy our catalog items - and each item makes a terrific and useful gift!

Take advantage of this brand new membership benefit and show everyone that you're a true "blue" FRIEND of the South Carolina State Museum by calling today and requesting a copy of "Museum Impressions."



At the October board meeting, Creighton McMaster, President, presented Dave Senema with a plaque in appreciation for his support of and dedication to the Friends organization while Director of the State Museum.



Sharon Vanzant, Friends' Board member, outlines the details of the museum catalog at the October board meeting.

## IS IT TIME TO RENEW?

Is it time to renew your Friends' membership? We want to be sure you are being kept up to date on all of the exciting happenings and events at the State Museum. To do that, we need to keep your membership up to date. If your address has changed since you joined, we need to know. If you are not sure when

you last paid dues, call the Friends' office at 758-8197 and we'll check our records. If you know it's time to renew, use the membership coupon to renew your membership and keep yourself up to date on the excitement at the South Carolina State Museum!



Caravan participants toured Uncle John's cabin on the grounds of the historic Thomas Hitchcock Home as part of their day trip to Aiken.

## CARAVANS - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Due to the enthusiastic response to our fall caravans, we are offering two more in the spring.

For those of you who missed the first trip to Aiken, we're offering you a second chance on April 19. We'll tour an historic home, the Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame, the Carriage House and the Doll House. We'll have lunch at the Rye Patch, go antiquing in The Alley shops, visit the Aiken Court Tennis Club and tour the Etheredge Fine Arts Center at USC - Aiken. The cost of the caravan, including lunch, will be \$15.00 for Friends' members, \$20.00 for the general public. The deadline to register is March 28. More details will be sent to those who register.

For all you Rudy Mancke fans, we're offering another caravan with Rudy,

however the destination will remain a secret until a later date. Rudy did say to tell you that the subject of the caravan will be spring flowers and animal life. So, if you love surprises, this trip is for you! The cost of the caravan, which does not include lunch, will be \$10.00 for Friends' members, \$15.00 for the general public. The deadline to register is April 25. More details will be sent to those who register.

Everyone is welcome on caravans, but Friends of the State Museum enjoy a fee discount and have first chance to register. Minimum number of participants will be 18; maximum will be 30, age 16 or older. Reservations must be confirmed in advance. Maps and details will be sent a week to ten days before each caravan.

To register, please complete and return this form with your check (payable to Friends of the State Museum) to: South Carolina State Museum, P.O. Box 11296, Columbia, SC 29211. For additional information, please call the museum at (803) 758-8197.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Aiken -- Saturday, April 19 \_\_\_\_\_ amount enclosed for this trip \_\_\_\_\_

@ of people \_\_\_\_\_

Suprise Caravan with Rudy Mancke \_\_\_\_\_ amount enclosed for this trip \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday, May 17 \_\_\_\_\_

@ of people \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a current member of the Friends

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not a member, but I am enclosing the membership form found in the newsletter in order to join the Friends and take advantage of the discount Caravans rate.



S.C. Museum Commission  
P.O. Box 11296  
Columbia, S.C. 29211

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Please send us your address changes on cards available at the post office. Undelivered letters are returned to us at a cost of 30 cents each. Thank you for helping us cut expenses.



1985-86  
MEMBERSHIP

Yes, I want to be a Friend of the State Museum.

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